

B. Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. *(currently amended)* A method of ~~inhibiting~~treating a T-cell mediated inflammation disorder in a subject ~~in need thereof~~having low activity or no activity of runt-related transcription 3 factor (RUNX3) gene product, the method comprising ~~contacting cells of the subject with~~delivering an active agent that induces ~~up-regulation~~expression or over-expression of RUNX3 ~~expression into the immune cells of said subject, thereby inhibiting the proliferation of T-cells.~~
2. *(currently amended)* The method of claim 1 wherein the immune cells are selected from the group consisting of thymocytes and dendritic cells (DC).
3. *(currently amended)* The method of claim 2 wherein the immune cells of the subject are dendritic cells.
4. *(previously presented)* The method of claim 3 wherein the active agent reduces the proportion of mature dendritic cells versus immature dendritic cells in said subject.
5. *(previously presented)* The method of claim 4, wherein the reduction in the proportion of mature dendritic cells versus immature dendritic cells is determined by a reduction in the proportion of dendritic cells expressing CD80, CD86, MHC class II and OX40L.
6. *(previously presented)* The method of claim 1, wherein the active agent comprises a polynucleotide encoding Runx3 or a polynucleotide encoding a RUNX3 promoter activator.
7. *(previously presented)* The method of claim 6 wherein the polynucleotide further comprises a viral-based vector.

8. (*currently amended*) The method of claim 1 wherein the ~~contact between the cells and the active agent~~delivery step is performed ex vivo.

9. (*currently amended*) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~subject suffers from a T-cell mediated inflammation disorder~~ is selected from the group consisting of a chronic inflammatory disease, a T-cell mediated autoimmune disease and tissue transplantation asthma, allergic asthma, Crohn's disease, and ulcerative colitis.

10-12. (*canceled*)

13. (*currently amended*) A method of attenuating dendritic cell[[s]] maturation in a subject ~~in need thereof~~having low activity or no activity of runt-related transcription 3 factor (RUNX3) gene product, the method comprising contacting~~delivering dendritic cells of the subject with an active agent that induces up-regulation~~expression or over-expression of RUNX3 ~~expression into the dendritic cells of said subject,~~ thereby attenuating [[the]] dendritic cell[[s]] maturation in said subject.

14-48. (*canceled*)

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